

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Nobutaka SHINOHARA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/400,428

FILED: September 21, 1999

FOR: SERIAL TRANSMISSION PATH SWITCHING SYSTEM



GAU: 2731

EXAMINER:

#4

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

PETITION

- Applicant(s) hereby request consideration of the attached information. A check is attached in the amount of the Petition fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1).

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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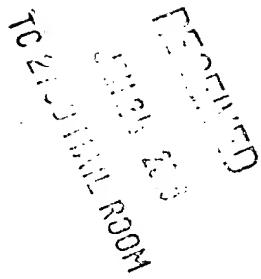
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Sheet 1 of 1

Group Art Unit: 2731



STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

Reference AO (JP 3-18198) on Form 1449:

This document discloses the principle of an exchanger although it is not of a picture switching device. The exchanger of this document does not have 2-series distribution-selection device at its input/output portion; however the switching is carried out by $n/2n$ in the first stage, by x/x in the second stage and by $2n/n$ in the third stage. Therefore, with the duplication, and a switch structure which can be enlarged and has a simple wiring structure can be obtained.

Reference AP (JP 4-160949) on Form 1449:

This document discloses a switch circuit network of an ATM type. The switch circuit network has a multi-stage structure in which an input line connects a plurality of single switches to multi-points, and an output line connects the multi-point of each output line. With the redundancy structure means, a call passing a disordered unit switch can detour via some other link.

Reference AQ (JP 2-164123) on Form 1449:

This document discloses a technical device for switching NTSC signal, RGB of video signal, RGB signal of computer terminal by a switch having a matrix structure. This device has a structure in which an optimal terminal resistance is provided in its output buffer amplifier, which is connected via a switch circuit. This is considered to a kind of equivalency, and therefore it is graded to be A.